

## ABSTRACT

**BLOCK-BASED IMAGE SEGMENTATION METHOD AND SYSTEM**

5           A method of image segmentation is disclosed. The method partitions at least part of an input image (9, 29) into a plurality of partitioned units (10). The method next determines segments (13,14,15,16) for each of the plurality of partitioned units (10) based on at least one pixel attribute of the input image (9, 29). Subsequently, the method selectively combines (18) the segments of the partitioned units (10) to provide a segmented version of the input image (9, 29). A system (1) for image segmentation having an image partition module (2), a block segmentation module (4) coupled to the image partition module (2) and a segment combination module (5) coupled to the block segmentation module (4) is also disclosed for performing the above method.

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